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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
08/876,839	06/16/1997	SCOTT C. HOLT	192600780	5436

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EXAMINER

TIEU, BENNY QUOC

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2642

DATE MAILED: 09/10/2002

28

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PR4

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/876,839

Applicant(s)

HOLT ET AL.

Examiner

Benny Q. Tieu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 and 22-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 22-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 17 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1-18 and 22-26 are objected to because of the following informalities: in claim 1, line 7 “a plurality” should be changed to --said plurality--; and lines 8 and 13, “a subscriber” should be changed to --said subscriber--.

All other independent claims should be corrected for the same matter. Appropriate correction is required.

All dependent claims are objected because they depend from the objected claims.

Further, all limitations in dependent claims that correspond to the change in the independent claims by the amendment are no longer matching. Applicant is advised to consider all dependent claims and make appropriate correction.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 1-16, and 22-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yue et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,764,747).

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Regarding claims 1-7, 11, 13, and 22-24, Yue teaches, in an integrated computer telephony system including a call routing system, a system and method for routing a call based on the identity of an originating source of said call, comprising the steps of:

maintaining a plurality of routing lists for a telephony subscriber, each of said routing lists comprising a plurality of directory numbers where the subscriber can be reached (Abstract), and for each of said routing lists:

associating each routing list with at least one originating source (column 7, lines 9-11);

determining an order of said directory numbers (column 7, lines 4-6);

receiving said call from a first originating source (column 10, lines 24-27);

identifying said first originating source of said call (column 10, lines 27-54);

selecting a routing list from said plurality of routing lists based on the identity of said first originating source (column 3, lines 16-20); and

directing said call sequentially to the directory numbers on said routing list selected (column 40-57).

Yue differs from the claimed invention in that Yue does not have a plurality ordered numbers in each list, but simply a destination number. However, assuming that after checking caller ID and select a destination number to accept the call, a destination terminal corresponds to the destination number is busy or no answer, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art to apply a forwarding feature to the art of Yue where a sequence destination numbers will be searched to forward the call. By doing that would provide benefit to both caller and called party for those important calls.

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Regarding claims 8-10, Yue further teaches the method wherein the selecting a routing list step further comprises the step of selecting the routing list from a group of routing lists identified for the originating party based on the day of the week or/and the time of the day the communication is received (column 7, lines 1-10).

Regarding claim 12, Yue further teach the system wherein the processing unit directs the call setup request by: selecting a first directory number from the routing list; routing the call to the first directory number; receiving communication disposition information from the first directory number; and if the communication disposition indicates the routing step failed, selecting a next directory number from the routing list and repeating above steps at the next directory number (column 3, lines 16-57).

Regarding claim 14, Yue further teaches the computer-readable medium wherein the identifying criteria comprises a CLID message and the step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises receiving the CLID message (Abstract).

Regarding claim 15, Yue further teaches the computer-readable medium wherein the identifying criteria comprises a DTMF code sequence and the step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises detecting the DTMF code sequences (column 8, lines 11-24).

Regarding claim 16, Yue further teaches the computer-readable medium wherein the identifying criteria comprises a DTMF code sequence and the step of obtaining an identifying criteria further comprises the steps of: providing keypad menu selection options to the called party; and receiving a DTMF signal corresponding to a keypad menu selection from the called party (Fig. 7-26C).

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Regarding claims 25 and 26, it should be noticed that area code is included in Calling Line number Identification (CLID). Therefore, when the CLID is detected, area code is detected. Further, exchange carrier is associated with the CLID, hence the exchange carrier code is detected.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 17 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-18 and 22-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Morganstein (U.S. Patent No. 5,724,408) teaches an automated call screening. Henningson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,301,350) teaches a system and method for call handling.

7. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Box AF

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

OR Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Crystal Park II, Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

2121 Crystal Drive

Arlington, VA 22202.

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

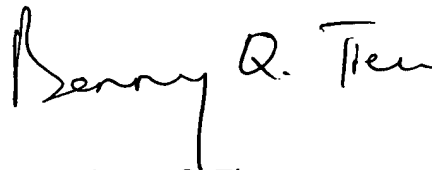
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benny Q. Tieu whose telephone number is (703) 305-2360. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 6:30AM - 5:00PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (703) 305-4731. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-6306 for regular communications and (703) 308-9051 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Benny Q. Tieu". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'B' and 'T'.

Benny Q. Tieu
Examiner
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BQT
September 2, 2002